

Ecaterina Pavel

ENGLISH FOR MEDICINE



Presa Universitară Clujeană

ECATERINA PAVEL

•

ENGLISH FOR MEDICINE

ECATERINA PAVEL

ENGLISH FOR MEDICINE

PRESA UNIVERSITARĂ CLUJEANĂ

2022

Referenți științifici:

Prof. univ. dr. Mona Arhire

Prof. univ. dr. Elena Buja

ISBN 978-606-37-1443-6

© 2022 Autoarea volumului. Toate drepturile rezervate.
Reproducerea integrală sau parțială a textului, prin orice mijloace, fără acordul autoarei, este interzisă și se pedepsește conform legii.

Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai
Presa Universitară Clujeană
Director: Codruța Săcelean
Str. Hasdeu nr. 51
400371 Cluj-Napoca, România
Tel./fax: (+40)-264-597.401
E-mail: editura@ubbcluj.ro
<http://www.editura.ubbcluj.ro/>

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	7
ANATOMY	9
1. CELLS AND TISSUES	9
2. ORGANS.....	19
3. THE HUMAN BODY	29
PAIN, INJURIES, DISEASES	39
1. PAIN.....	39
2. INJURIES	51
3. DISEASES.....	61
MEDICAL ENVIRONMENT	77
1. HEALTH FACILITIES AND MEDICAL SPECIALITIES.....	77
2. INSTRUMENTS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT.....	89
3. ASSISTIVE DEVICES	101
MAKING A DIAGNOSIS.....	111
1. MEDICAL HISTORY	111
2. DIAGNOSIS: PHYSICAL EXAMINATION	123
3. INVESTIGATIONS	136
HEALTH.....	147
1. THERAPEUTICS	147
2. COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE	159
3. HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE	169
KEY	179
REFERENCES	201

Foreword

This book is addressed to all those involved in medical communication in English and is motivated by the expansion of international collaboration in the medical field. In this context, English is the predominant language of communication, regardless of the origin of those involved (clinicians, medical students, medical researchers, medical professionals, patients). Therefore, the correct and appropriate wording in English, the understanding of medical language and structures are absolute prerequisites for effective communication, all the more so since this is an area where errors often have overwhelming consequences. Conceived as a practical work addressed to upper-intermediate users of English, the present book aims to cover various aspects of medical language in a manner as comprehensive as possible, stimulating the understanding and acquisition of specific notions; it also deals with correctness, by means of grammar exercises tailored to cover frequent glitches in this field. The book is not a university course, so theoretical explanations are very few, and they are provided only where I felt that there was a need for a differentiation in the choice of some variants to the detriment of others.

The topics covered vary – the book is structured in 5 chapters, and each chapter is subdivided into 3 sections. The first chapter – *Anatomy* – focuses on the terminology related to cells and tissues, passing through organs, and ending with human systems and the human organism, enabling readers to learn, retain and review anatomical language in a challenging and pleasant manner. The second chapter – *Pain, injuries, diseases* – focuses on the terminology specific to this matter, through exercises and texts designed to enrich the vocabulary, but also to differentiate between the more subtle nuances between precise terms. The third chapter – *Medical environment* – encompasses three dimensions: words designating medical facilities and professionals, various instruments and medical equipment employed in different fields (laboratory, physical examination, surgical interventions, etc), and assistive devices, used mainly by patients and carers. The fourth chapter – *Making a diagnosis* – is dedicated to clinical medicine – pain assessment, history taking, physical examination of the patient, signs, symptoms, pathologies and investigations, medical letters and records. The last chapter – *Health* – deals with both health restoration (therapeutics) and prevention (health and lifestyle), but also with a dimension which is not part of Western medicine but is increasingly popular – alternative medicine.

Each chapter comprises various exercises such as collocations, mind maps, crosswords, meant to help users to assimilate new vocabulary more easily, since the target terms appear in related groups, rather than in isolation (synonymy, antonymy, paronymy, polysemy). There are also word-building exercises, meant to identify links between words and to discover terms that are morphologically related (verbs, nouns and adjectives deriving from the same etymons or having the same stems). Some exercises place the emphasis on understanding meanings and how to use terms in their correct grammatical forms; other exercises focus on the familiar/informal register of idioms, slang, etc. Different historical curiosities, visual aids, labelling exercises and original texts are also used to facilitate the assimilation of specialised medical terminology.

Obviously, the exercises in this book cannot cover every detail with relevance to all subspecialties, but they can be seen as landmarks, since this book tries to give a broad initial perspective of the key medical points. Moreover, no glossaries are included (medical abbreviations, Latin/Greek declensions, combining forms, etc.), since these are available in numerous online resources and repeating them would have proved redundant and would have constituted no real or original contribution.

Briefly, my approach has been to:

1. Create pleasant, but challenging exercises for rapid assimilation of the correct medical terminology in English.
2. Include illustrations serving as visual memory tools and other graphic items such as crosswords and mind maps.
3. Focus more on general issues that are both interesting and vital to the actual practice of medicine, no matter the specialisation.
4. Design an organised approach to the various aspects related to the medical field.

Medical professionals might be faced daily with linguistic challenges; a well-developed knowledge of English medical terminology and structures is critical for the practicing health professionals in any medical field. It is, no doubt, difficult for them to grasp and integrate the overwhelming amount of specialised terms; but supplementing their resources with a book of this nature will hopefully enable them to assimilate medical terminology in English more rapidly with better attention.



ISBN: 978-606-37-1443-6